

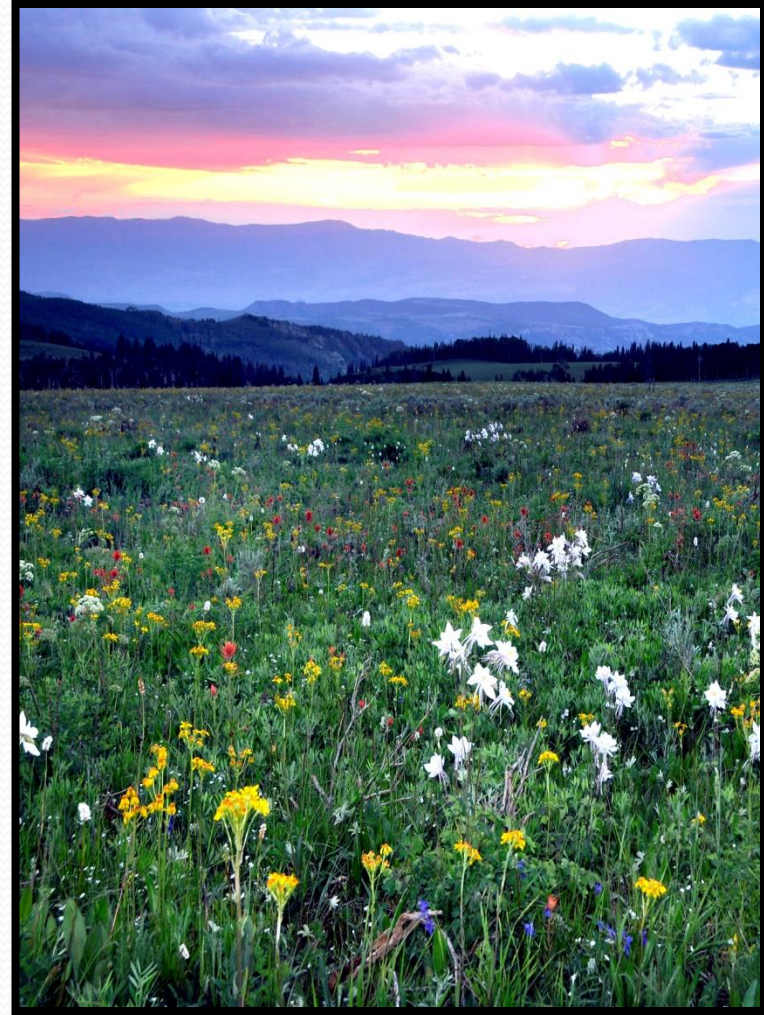
UTAH's WATERSHED RESTORATION INITIATIVE



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What is WRI?

- 15 year old State led partnership driven effort to improve high priority watersheds in Utah
- Ecosystem values WRI focuses on improving
 - Watershed health and biological diversity
 - Water quality and yield
 - Opportunities for sustainable uses of natural resources



Audit Response

- New DNR Policy on WRI Procedures – NR-20-D-12
- New Internal WRI Policies and Procedures Manual
- New WRI project administration cost accounting policy
- Updated performance measure targets to match current performance

| | | |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------|
| STATE OF UTAH | NO.: NR-20-D-12 | NO. PAGES: 2 |
| DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES | EFFECTIVE DATE: November 1, 2020 | |
| POLICIES AND PROCEDURES | | |
| | REVISION DATE: | |
| SUBJECT: UTAH'S WATERSHED RESTORATION INITIATIVE PROCEDURES | | |
| Brian C. Steed, Executive Director | | |

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide uniform policies and procedures for the Department's statewide management of Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative.

II. WRI OVERVIEW

A. Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative (WRI) is a partnership based program in Utah to improve high priority watersheds throughout the state. WRI has been in existence since 2006 and focuses on improving three ecosystem values: 1) watershed health and biological diversity, 2) water quality and yield, and 3) opportunities for sustainable uses of natural resources. WRI is an initiative where project planning, review, and ranking occur at a regional level. Five regional teams elect their own leaders, establish focus areas, review, score and rank project proposals using a comprehensive project prioritization score sheet, and assist their members in implementing projects.

III. PROCEDURES

A. WRI Administrative Structure

1. WRI is a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administration level program that receives oversight from the DNR Executive Director and is managed by a single DNR employee (WRI Director).
2. The WRI administrative team consists of the WRI Director, the DWR Habitat Conservation Coordinator, the DWR Habitat Conservation Projects Biologist as well as the DWR Archaeologist.
3. General duties of the WRI administrative team include:
 - a. Oversight of WRI region teams and their operating charters development of statewide restoration priorities and project proposal process

WRI Performance Measures

- Acres Treated

| | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Target | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 120,000 |
| Actual | 172,939 | 199,408 | 110,041 | |

- Stream Miles Improved

| | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Target | 50 | 175 | 175 | 175 |
| Actual | 193 | 155 | 166 | |

- State Funding Leverage

- New State funding leverage measurement will measure all State of Utah funding against all other contributed funds to WRI. This will include both real dollars and in-kind funds.

WRI FY20 Accomplishments

- 158 Completed projects
- 80 Different funding partners
- 129,440 Acres completed
 - 19,399 acres fire rehabilitation
 - 110,041 acres proactive restoration
- 166 Miles of stream and riparian areas treated
- 855,720 Pounds of seed applied



Total Acres

- 110,041
- 19,399

BLM Acres

- 48,376
- 13,946

State Acres

- 7,462
- 969

USFS Acres

- 44,342
- 1,211

Private Acres

- 9,130
- 3,273

Other Acres

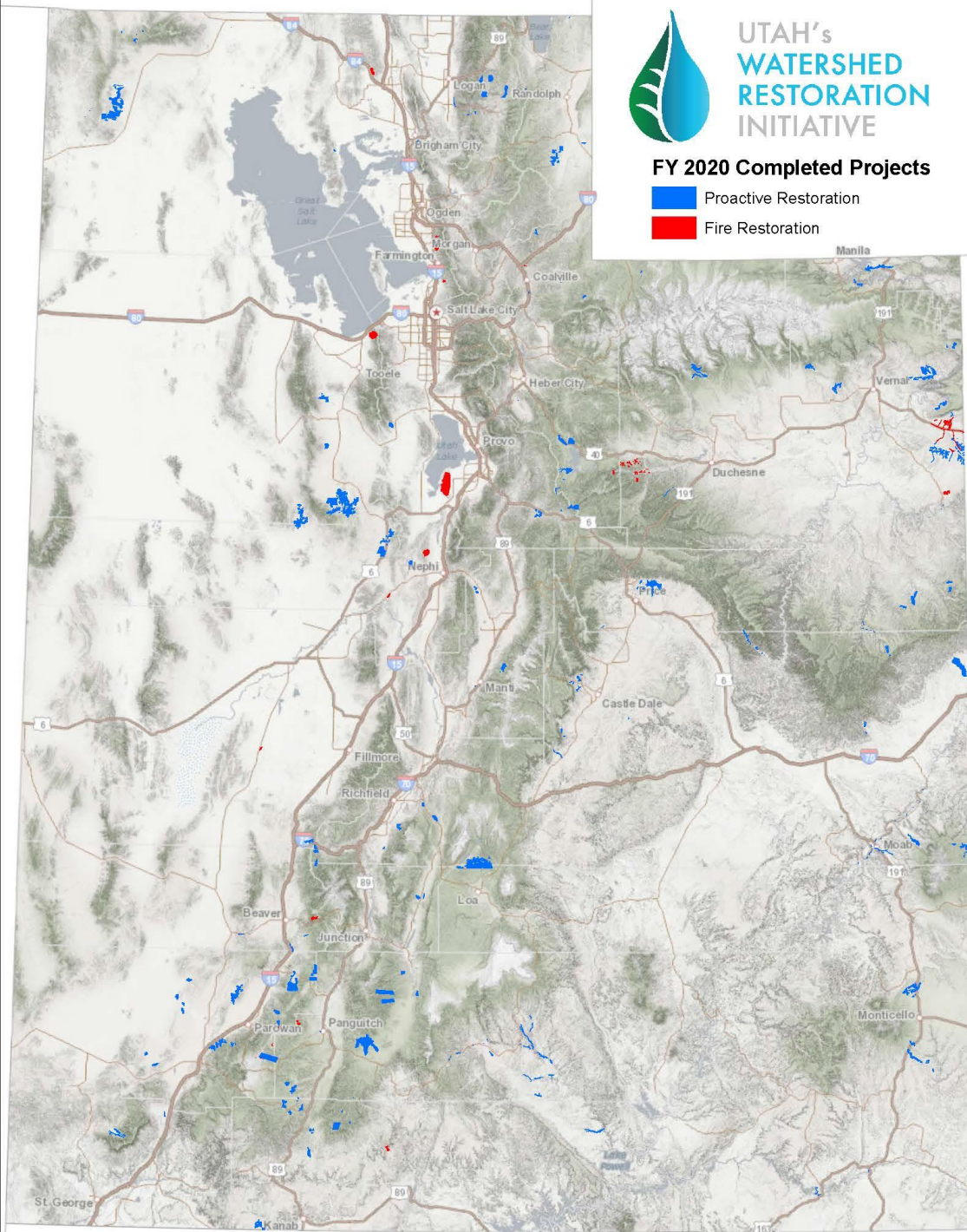
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UTAH'S
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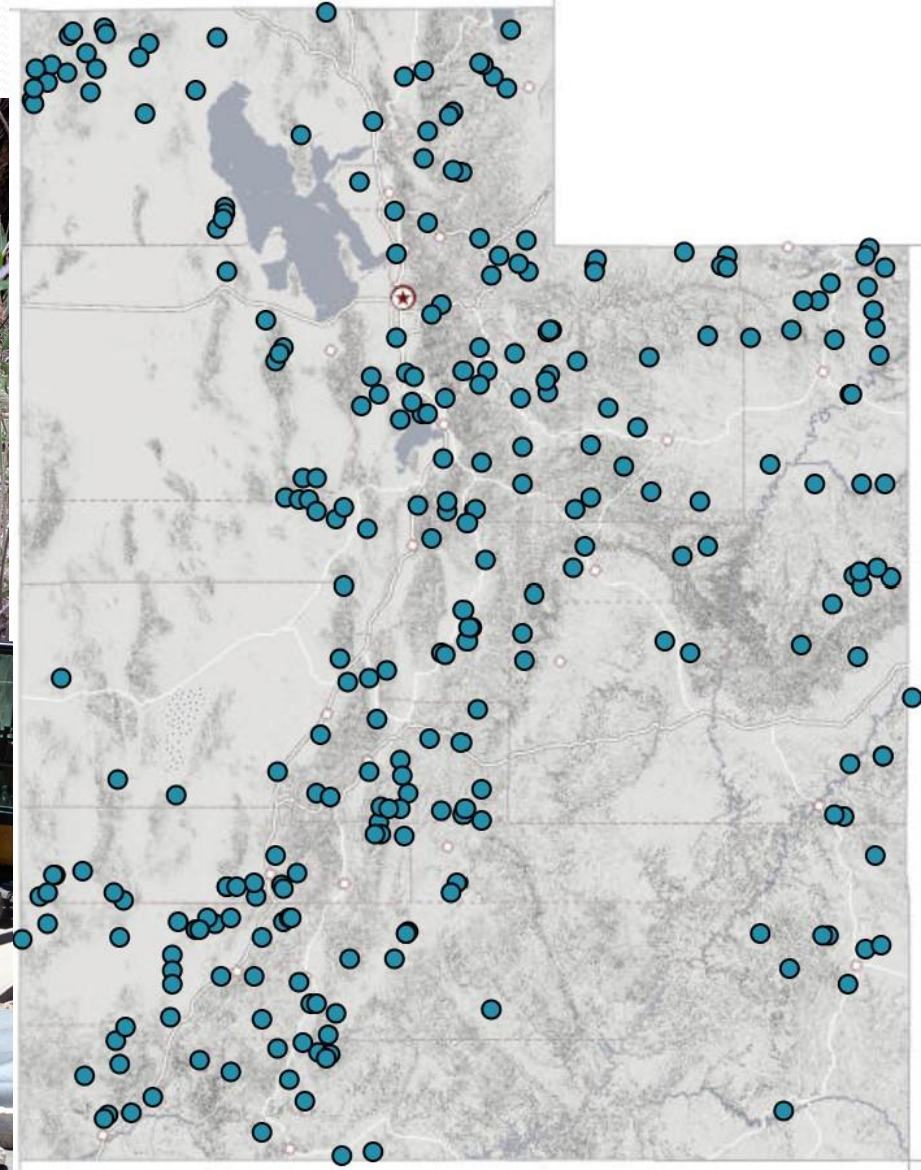
FY 2020 Completed Projects

- Proactive Restoration
- Fire Restoration



Current WRI Projects

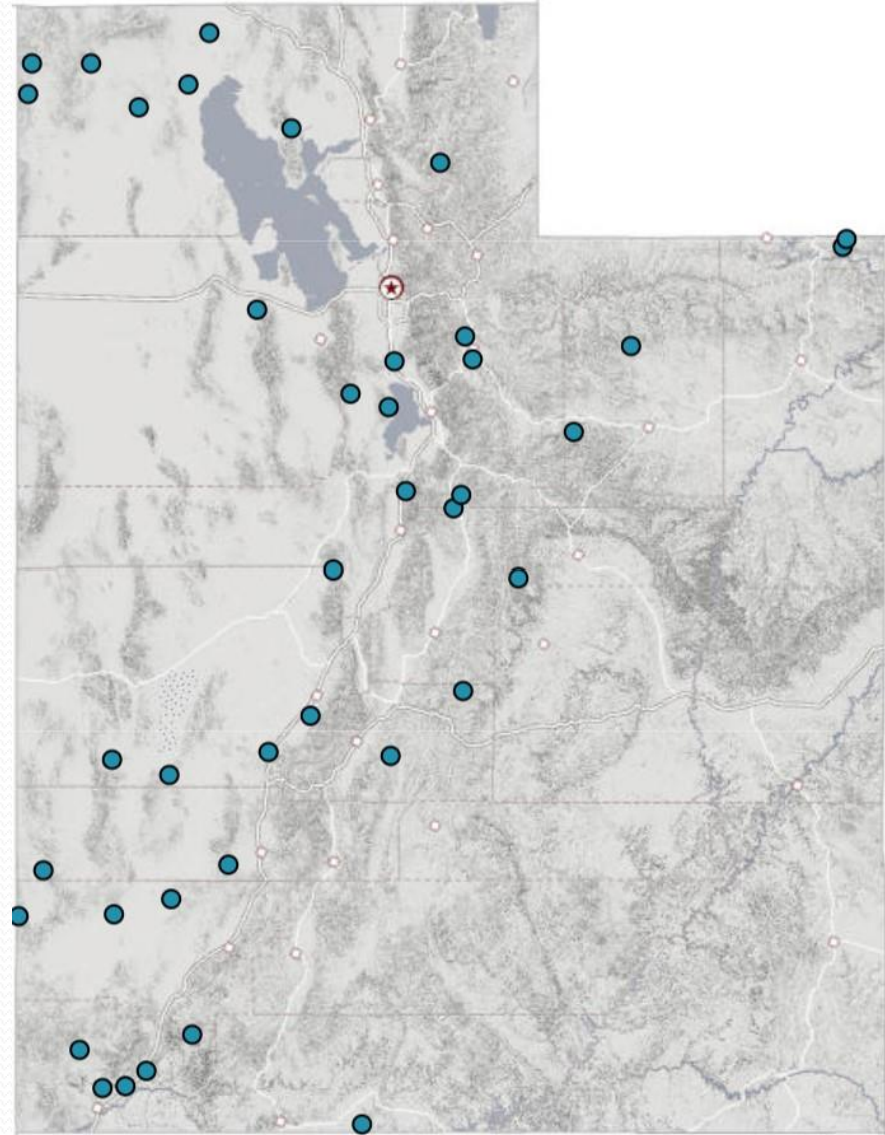
300 Projects



WRI Led Fire Rehabilitation – FY21

50 Fires - 115,000 Acres

- Canal – 31,977 Acres
- Rock Path – 20,478 Acres
- Turkey Farm – 10,362 Acres
- East Fork – 9,043 Acres
- Knolls Complex – 5,811 Acres
- Wire Pass/Pine Hollow – 5,400 Acres
- Big Summit – 5,288 Acres
- Range Fire – 2,647 Acres
- Big Springs – 2,609 Acres
- Grey Hills – 2,595 Acres
- 40 other smaller fires



WRI Led Fire Rehabilitation – FY21

\$15 Million Total Cost

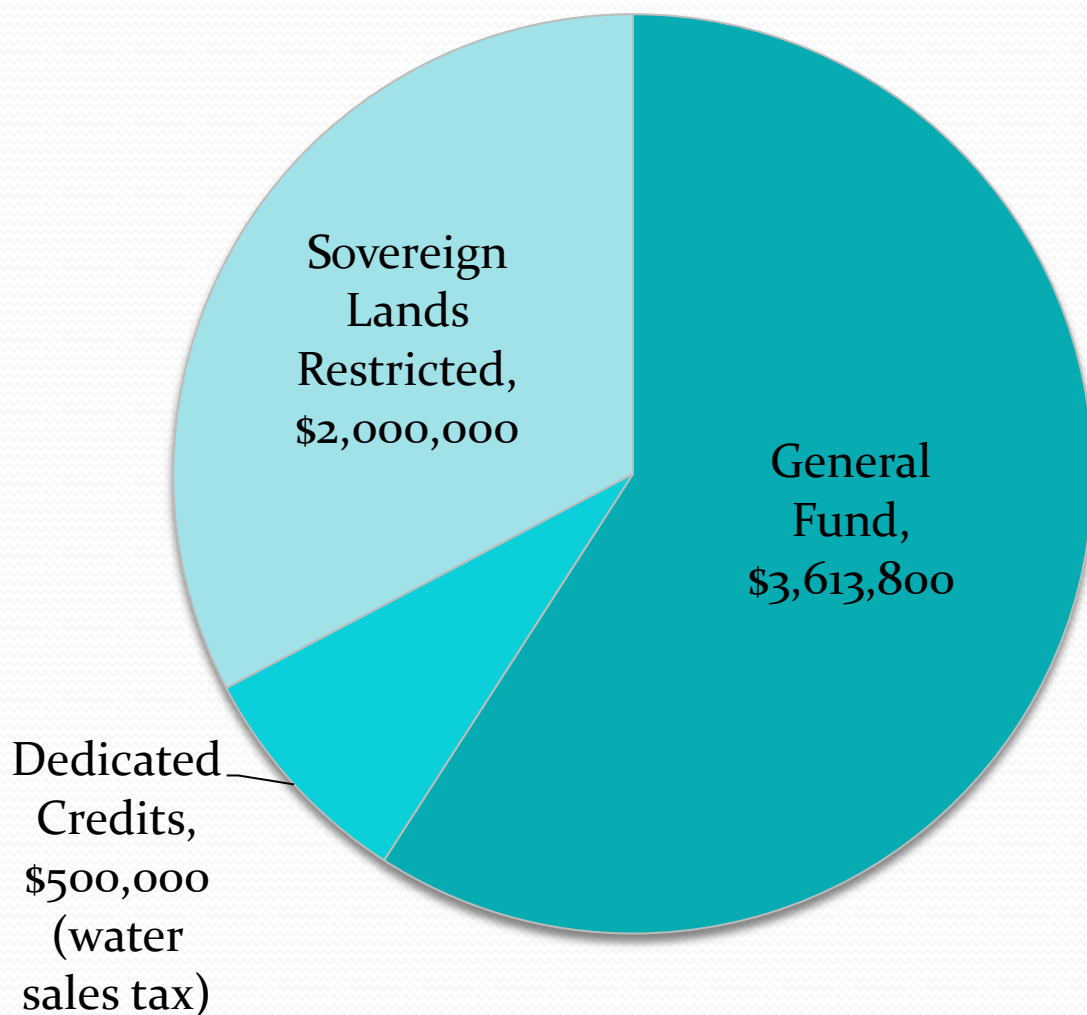
832,833 Pounds of Seed

- State Funds Needed - \$6 million
 - \$1 million currently appropriated
 - \$1 million held back from proactive WRI project work
 - \$1 million FEMA post-fire funds for 2018 FMAG eligible fires
- FY2021 Supplemental Request for Fire Rehabilitation - \$3 million
 - Part of FFSL FY21 supplemental fire suppression request



Watershed Program Funding

\$6,113,800



• 97%

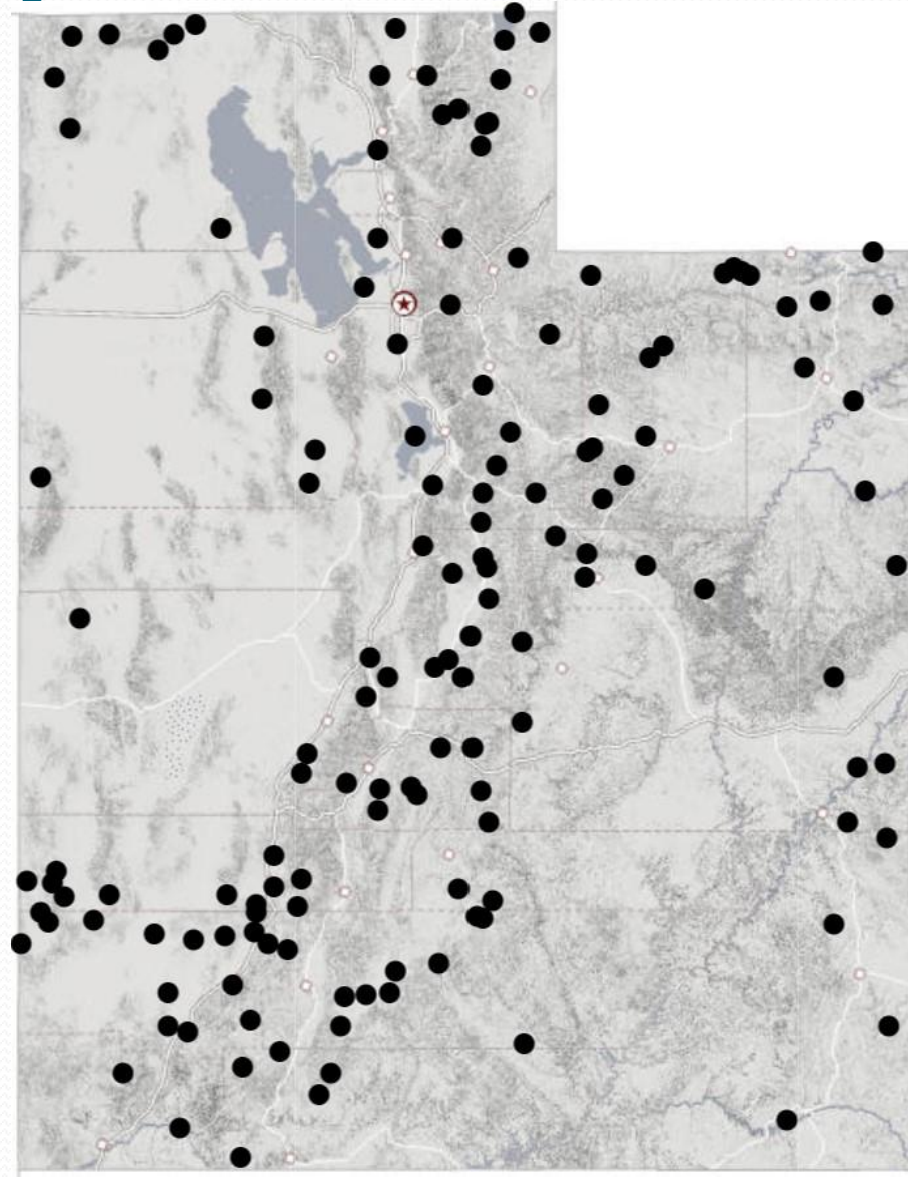
Funds go towards WRI projects – administered through DWR

• 3%

Held in DNR for single FTE – overall Watershed program administration

WRI Proposed Projects – FY22

- 150 FY22 WRI funding proposals
- 280,000 Acres
- \$65 Million funding requests
- NEPA complete
- Shovel ready





Thank You



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